

# Reaching Potential: Listening and Speaking Level IV



# Geography

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

**English as an Additional Language Programs**

Okanagan School of Education

Reaching Potential: Listening and Speaking Level IV

Post Secondary Education Skills: Upper Intermediate English

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# Geography in Canada

## Activity A: Discussion



## Listening Skill: Categorizing Ideas

### Activity A: Notetaking

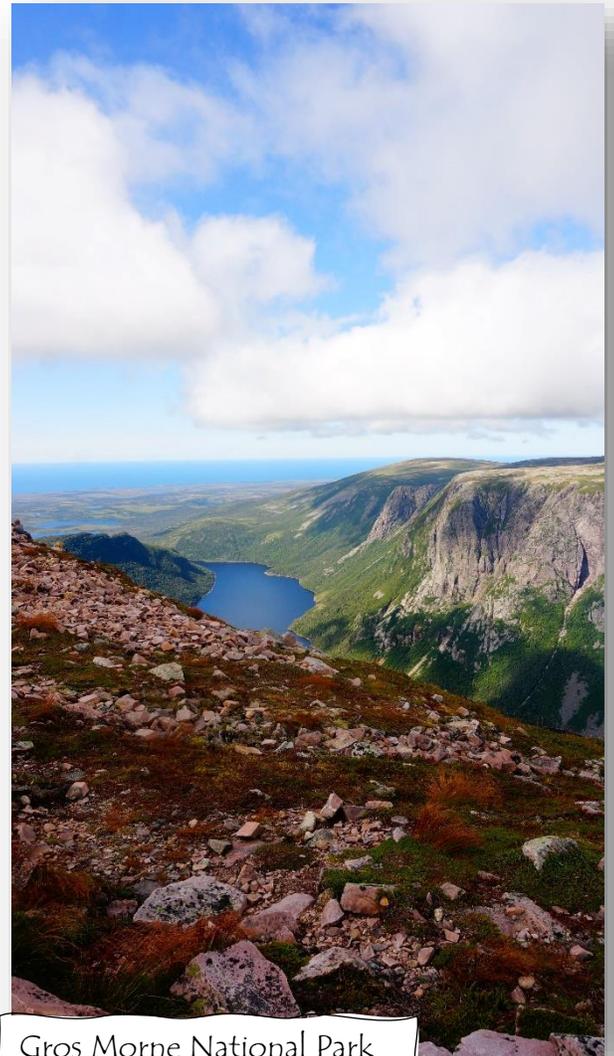
Categorizing ideas is an important skill in university.

You can categorize notes after a lecture to help you remember information.

Listen to the following conversation about two different national parks in Canada. As you listen, complete the table below with some information about each park.



Listen to Track 1



Gros Morne National Park

National Park	Province	Notes
Aulavik National Park		
Gros Morne National Park		

## Activity B: Categorizing of Ideas

Reread your notes in Activity A.

Categorize the ideas into different sections and be prepared to present the information to a classmate or in small groups.

### Study Tip

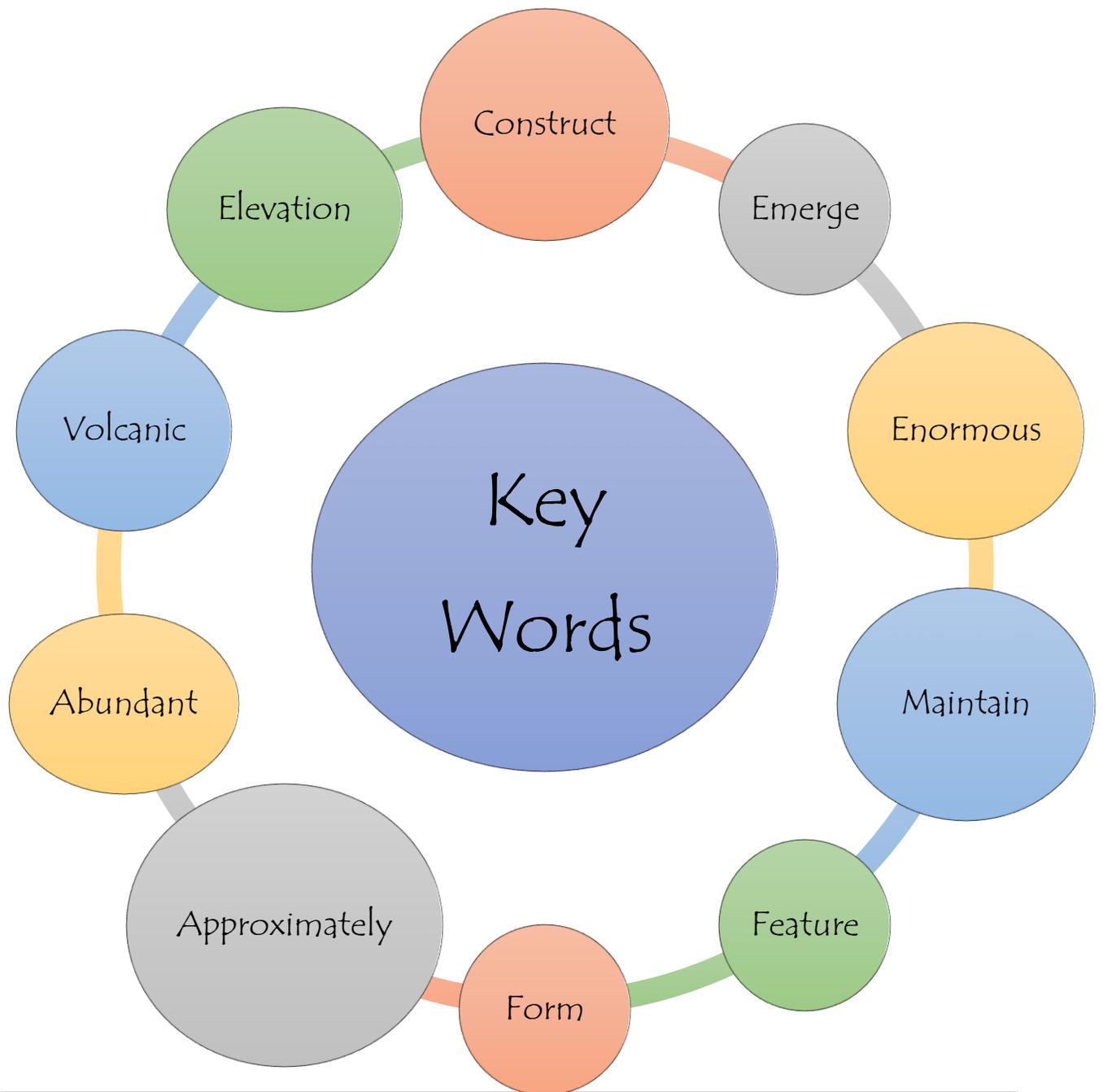
When categorizing notes, you can categorize information into different sections like:

- Size
- land features
- lakes, activities
- wildlife
- Location

## Core Listening Vocabulary

### Activity A: Key Words

These are the key words for the first listening text of this unit. First, read the words. Then, discuss which words are new and figure out what they mean with a classmate or in small groups.



## Activity B: Research

Research online to find the definition for the words in the box below. Then, complete the table.

Key Word	Word Type	Word Definition
Construct	Verb	
Emerge	Verb	
Enormous	Adjective	
Maintain	Verb	
Feature	Noun	
Form	Verb	
Approximately	Adjective	
Abundant	Adjective	
Volcanic	Adjective	
Elevation	Noun	
Mineral	Noun	
Alpine	Adjective	

### Activity C: Create

Write five questions and/or statements using the key words. When you have finished, share your questions or statements to a classmate or in small groups.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

### Activity D: Extension Activity

Choose one of the activities below.

#### Find a Picture for the Word

Choose five words from the list on page 9.

Find a picture online that will help you remember what the word is.

When you have finished, show the pictures to your classmates and have them guess what the word is.

#### Create a Quiz

Choose five words from the on page 7.

Make a quiz with missing words in it.

When you have finished, share your quiz with a classmate or in small groups and have them complete the sentences.

#### Example:

Canada has many \_\_\_\_\_ geographical areas. For example, the Okanagan Valley in BC is very different from the coast of BC.

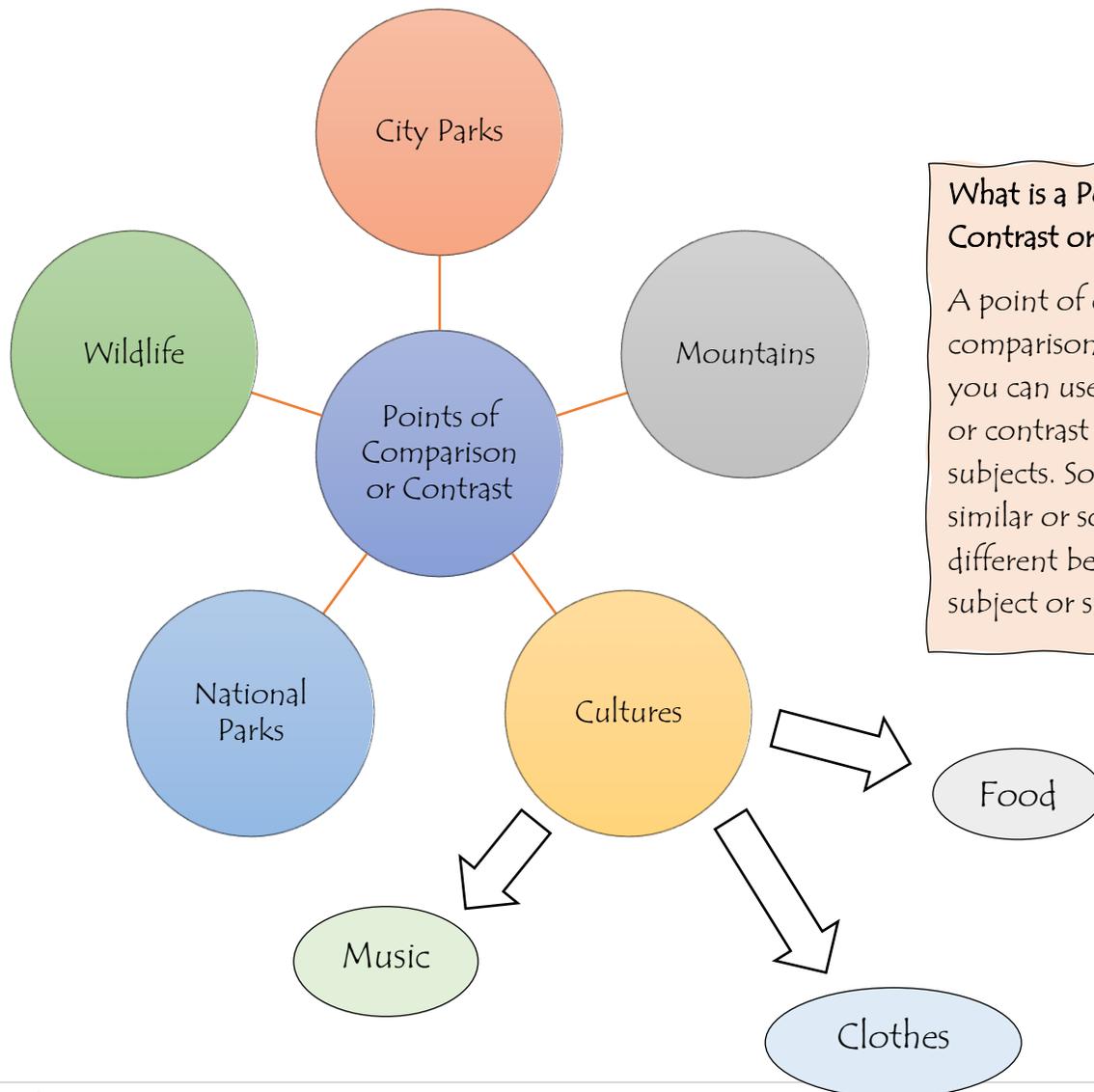
**Answer:** diverse / unique

## Listening Text: Canadian National Parks

### Activity A: Points of Comparisons or Contrasts

When you attend university in Canada you will need to take notes in various environments. After you take notes, you can categorize your notes. **Categorizing ideas and details and identifying comparisons and contrasts of different subjects** are two important skills for university.

Identify some points of comparison or contrast for the following:



#### What is a Point of Contrast or Comparison?

A point of contrast or comparison is something you can use to compare or contrast a subject or subjects. Something similar or something different between a subject or subjects.

## Activity B: Listen and Take Notes

Canada is a country of natural beauty. Listen to the following conversation about four different national parks in Canada. As you listen, complete the table below with some information about each park.



Listen to Track 2

<u>National Park</u>	<u>Province</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Banff National Park		
Mount Revelstoke National Park		
Aulavik National Park		
Gros Morne National Park		

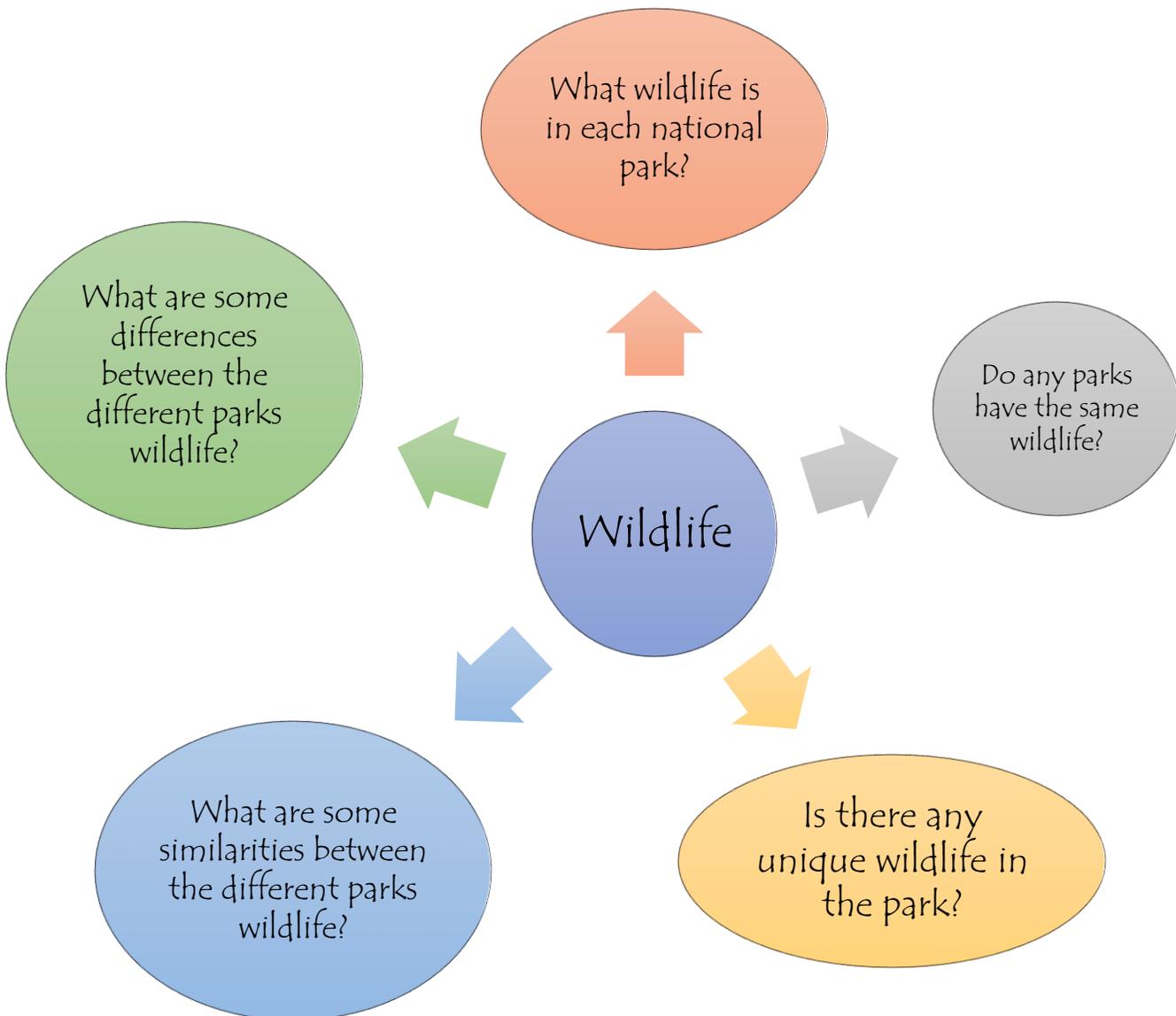
## Activity C: Analyze your Notes

Revise your notes from Activity B and do the following:

- Categorize the information.
- Identify points of comparison and/or contrasts between the parks.
- Share your findings with a classmate or in small groups.

### Study Tip

Ask yourself questions about the topic you want to identify points of comparison or contrast in. Look at the example below for ideas



## Critical Thinking Skills: Different Places to Visit

### Activity A: Listen and Complete the Tables

Listen to the radio about two different holiday resorts in BC, Canada. The advertisements talk about what you can do at the two locations. The advertisements also talk about the geography of each area. As you listen, complete the table below with information from the radio advertisements.



Listen to Track 3

Big White

Telemark Nordic Club

Location

Activities

Price

What makes it unique

## Activity B: Read and Find

Read the transcripts below, as you read do the following:

- Underline the activities you can do
- Circle the geographical features from the location
- Draw a box around the prices

This information is relevant for the radio advertisement. It gives the most important information in a quick manner. When you are creating a radio advertisement, you should make it short and engaging.

### Big White Radio Advertisement

Are you looking for a getaway with the family to an alpine resort? Then look no further. Welcome to Big White Ski resort. Situated only 56 kms away from Kelowna, this is the perfect location for the entire family. From downhill skiing and snowboarding, cross country skiing, and even tubing, Big White is perfect for everyone. Don't forget to check our alpine lakes!

Did you know that Big White is home to a 60-foot ice climbing wall? It's the only one in the Okanagan!

What are you waiting for? Book today and get your beginner ticket for only \$29!

### Telemark Nordic Club Radio Advertisement

Come experience spring snowshoeing and cross-country skiing at Telemark Nordic Club. Only a short 30-minute drive from downtown Kelowna, it's the perfect location for a day trip.

With over 17 trails, the largest of any Okanagan Snowshoe resort, you can snowshoe all day and never repeat the same trail.

When you have finished, make sure to stop by the Nordic Lodge and warm up by a fire with a nice tea or coffee or hot beverage.

Grab your day pass today for only \$8 per person. Please note rentals may cost more.

## Activity C: Research and Create

In Activity A you listened to a radio advertisement for two different holiday locations in BC, Canada. Now, complete the table below either using an interesting area in your country or one of the locations from page 17.

When you have finished, share the information with a classmate or in small groups.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Location

Activities

Price

What makes it unique



## Activity D: Short Radio Advertisement

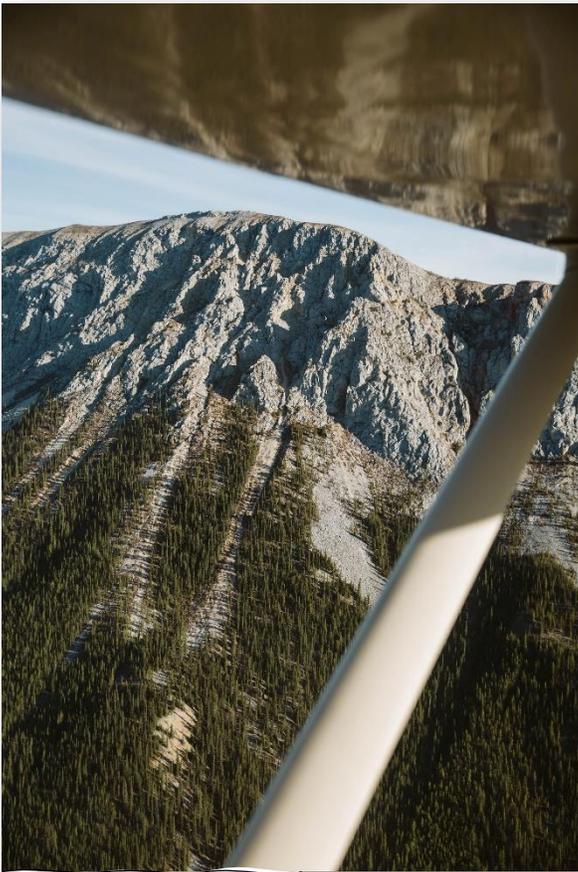
After you share your information with your group, decide which location you like the most.

Then, record a short radio advertisement for that location.

The radio advertisement should only be between 60-90 seconds long.

You should talk about:

- Where it is
- What you can do there
- What makes it unique
- How much it costs



Yukon Territory



Emerald Lake



Niagara Falls

## Grammar Skill: Relative Clauses and Relative Pronouns

We use relative clauses to give extra information about a noun.

Relative clauses can be effective for providing an engaging presentation.

We use a relative pronoun before the extra information.

Canada has many national parks which are maintained by the government.

Relative Pronoun

Relative Clause

Banff is a town in Alberta where you can go hiking, visit hot springs, and see wildlife.

Relative Pronoun

Relative Clause

## Activity A: Identify the Relative Pronoun

Listen to the following sentences and identify the relative pronoun. Write the relative pronoun in the space below.



### Listen to Track 4

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

### Language Tip

Relative pronouns are used to give extra information about a noun. Depending on the noun, we use different relative pronouns.

Who

Where

Which

When

That

Whose

## Activity B: Which Relative Pronoun do you Use?

Listen to **Activity A** again. Identify if the relative pronoun is used for a person, place, thing, or a time. Put an X in the correct column. Share your answers with a classmate or in small groups.

Listening	Person	Place	Thing	Time
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

## Activity C: How to use Relative Clauses

We use relative clauses to give extra information about a noun.

If you are talking about a place, you can mention the place and then use a **relative clause** to give some information about it.

### Example:

Big White, **which is in BC**, is a ski resort.

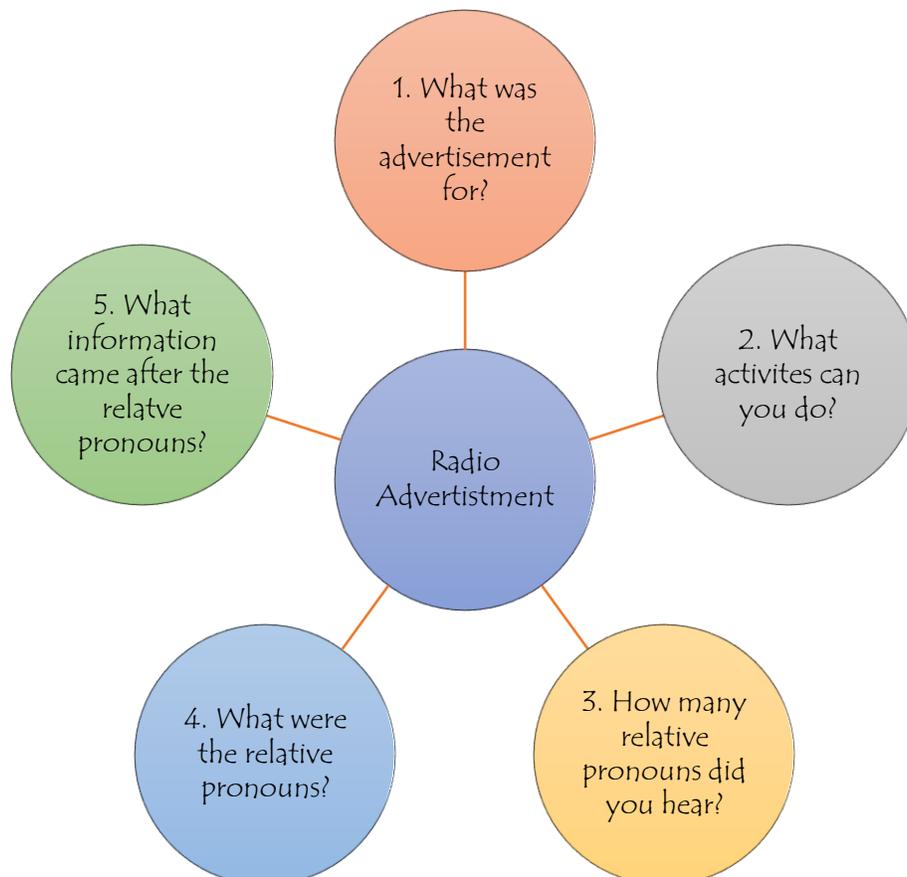
The Yukon, **where you can go dogsledding**, is in Northern Canada and is tundra.

Big White is a beautiful ski resort **where you can ski, snowboard, and go sledding**.

Listen to the following expert from a travel agency talking about a town in Canada. Then discuss the questions below with a classmate or in small groups.



### Listen to Track 5



## Activity D: Changing Two Sentences to One

We use relative clauses to turn two sentences into one sentence.

Listen to the following two sentences.

Then, change the two sentences into one sentence using relative clauses.

Share your answers with a classmate or in small groups.

The first one is done for you.



Listen to Track 6

Number	New Sentence
1	Tourists who visit mount Revelstoke national park take pictures of wildflowers and sometimes see bears.
2	
3	
4	
5	

## Activity E: Read the Transcript

Read the transcript below and:

- Underline the relative pronouns.
- Circle two sentences you could combine into one sentence.

Share your answers with a classmate or in small groups

### Visit Revelstoke

Are you looking for a nice vacation this year with the family? Then look no further than Revelstoke, BC. Revelstoke, which is a small town of only 7,547 people, is located on the foot of Mount Revelstoke National Park.

Mount Revelstoke National park is a beautiful place where people visit winter and summer. In summer, many tourists who are interested in photography travel to the park to snap pictures of the beautiful wildflowers which bloom in July and August.

Consider going for a hike to some of the high alpine lakes like Jade and Eva lake. After your hike, you should check out the beautiful Halcyon Hot Springs which are located just a short 40-minute drive away from the town of Revelstoke. Immerse yourself in the hot springs which were formed by volcanic activity millions of years ago. The hot water is good for your skin. It is full of healthy and natural minerals from the earth's core.

Revelstoke boasts natural beauty that was formed over centuries of geographical movement and has created lots of alpine lakes and jagged mountains. These jagged mountains are not difficult to climb.

Stay in the beautiful small town of Revelstoke. There are lots of restaurants and cafes you can visit in Revelstoke.

Overall, Revelstoke has fun for all the family. Book your trip today!



Listen to Track 5

## Activity F: My Country

Look at the information you completed for Critical Thinking Skills, Activity D.

Share your information with a classmate or in small groups.

Make sure to use relative clauses.

### Useful Phrases

Let me tell about a beautiful place in my country which is located...

This area is known for \_\_\_ where you can...

The geography in this location is unique, which makes it perfect for...

In winter, when it is \_\_\_, you can...

## Pronunciation Skill: Pronunciation of 'H'

### Activity A: Correct Pronunciation of WH Words

Study the words in the box below. Then, listen to the pronunciation of the words in eight sentences. Identify if there a 'H' sound or no 'H' sound.



#### Listen to Track 7

Word	'H' sound	No 'H' sound
1. When		
2. Who		
3. Which		
4. Whose		
5. Where		
6. Whole		
7. White		
8. Wheel		

#### Pronunciation Tip

When 'Wh' is followed by a *long o* or a *oo* sound, we use a 'H' sound

**Most** 'Wh' words do not use a 'H' sound

#### With the H sound

*Long o or the oo sound*

Who

Whose

Whole

#### Without the H sound

When

Which

Where

White

Wheel

## Activity B: Gap Fill

Read the following sentences with gaps.

Complete the gaps with the correct WH words.

Then listen to check your answers.



### Listen to Track 8

1. \_\_\_\_\_ location has more hikes?
2. Banff is a town \_\_\_\_\_ you can go hiking in the summer and skiing in the winter.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is the best time to visit Revelstoke?
4. \_\_\_\_\_ do you think we should go next, Gros Morne or Banff?
5. I can't remember \_\_\_\_\_ suggested that we visit Revelstoke, but I am very glad they did.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ idea was it to visit Aulavik national park? It's too far away!
7. Is there a place \_\_\_\_\_ we can hike and go to hot springs after?
8. I think I'll visit Revelstoke in the winter, \_\_\_\_\_ the snow arrives so I can ski all day.

## Activity C: WH- Questions and Answers

Write five questions using the following words:

Who, Whose, Where, Which, When

Ask your classmates the questions and focus on correct pronunciation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

## Functional Speaking Skill: Effective Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing is an important skill in English. When you are giving a presentation or sharing ideas you have two choices:

1. Quote what you heard **verbatim** using citations
2. Don't repeat the information you read verbatim, paraphrase.

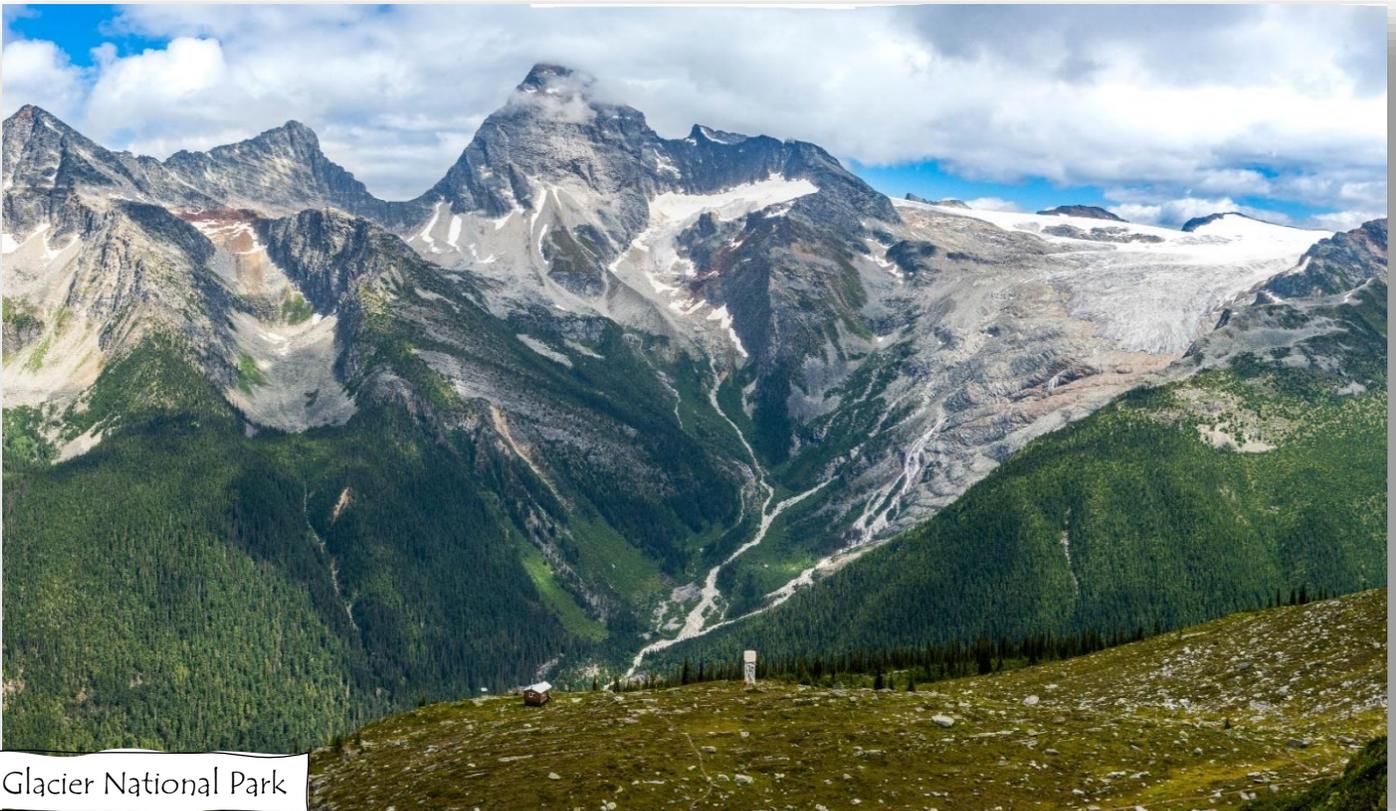
Paraphrasing is when we take what a person has said and repeat it in our own words **but keep the message the same**.

There are many ways to paraphrase in English, here are two:

1. Change the grammar of a sentence
2. Use new words with the same meaning

Verbatim / Adverb

Copied, quoted, or translated exactly the same words as were used originally



Glacier National Park

## Activity A: Type of Paraphrase

First, listen to sentence A. Then, listen to sentence B. Sentence B is a paraphrased sentence. Identify what type of paraphrasing the speaker used. The first one is done for you. When you have finished, discuss the differences between A and B with a classmate or in small groups.



Listen to Track 9

Sentence	Grammar Change	New Word(s)
1	X	
2		
3		
4		
5		

## Activity B: Effective and Ineffective Paraphrasing

Effective paraphrasing is when you do not change the meaning of what was originally said.

Listen to the following examples of effective and ineffective (A and B) paraphrasing. As you listen, put an X in the box which has the most effective paraphrasing for each.

When you have finished, discuss why you chose your answers.

**Paraphrasing Tip:**  
Be careful not to misrepresent the facts. You can not change the meaning of a sentence when you paraphrase.



Listen to Track 10

Original Statement	A	B
1		
2		
3		
4		



Banff National Park

### Activity C: Paraphrasing and Citing

Read the following sentences. Then paraphrase the sentences. Read your paraphrased sentence to a classmate or in small groups. Then, your classmate or group should give you feedback.

1. According to the brochure, Mount Revelstoke National Park is located in BC. It is not the biggest national park, but it is beautiful.
2. This article says many people visit Banff National park every year to experience the world-famous hot springs.
3. Big White ski resort is a lot smaller than Revelstoke National Park. However, it is perfect for family vacations.
4. Professor Scott says that unless we do something about climate change, the national parks will change drastically in the next two decades.
5. Revelstoke National Park is full of beautiful geographical features like jagged mountains and alpine lakes.
6. The Canadian Statistics office reports that Revelstoke National Park has over 600,000 visitors annually.

#### Language Tip

When you paraphrase, you may need to give citations.

Make sure to give the proper citations for information you paraphrase.

### Activity D: Research and Paraphrase

Research an area in your country that is geographically unique. Find some points of information about the area. Then, share your information with a classmate or in small groups. When you share the information, make sure to paraphrase effectively.

# Core Speaking Vocabulary

## Activity A: Comparing and Contrasting

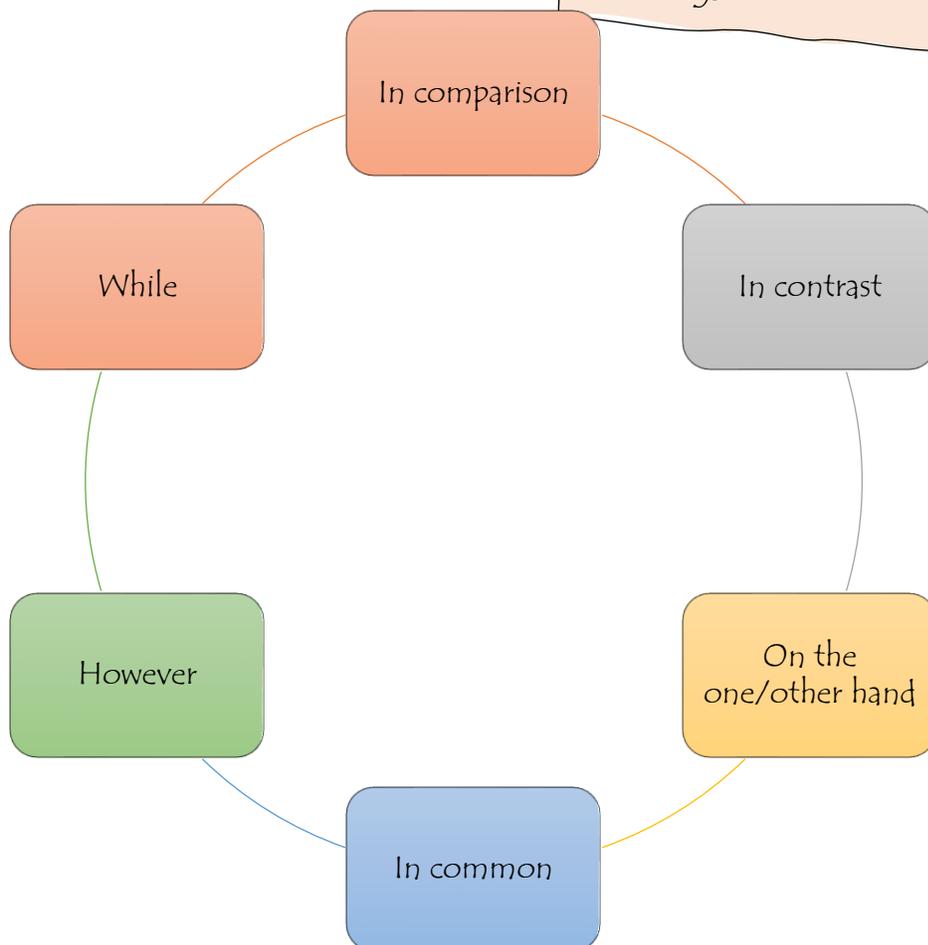
When you are giving a presentation in university, you may need to compare and contrast the similarities or differences between two different subjects. Study the list of words below.

Comparing and Contrasting words:

What is the difference between compare and contrast?

**Compare** | Identify the similarities between two things

**Contrast** | Identify the differences between two things



## Activity B: Look and Match I

Look at the pictures below and:

- Describe the pictures with a classmate or in small groups
- Connect the pictures with words from page 32



## Activity C: Comparing and Contrasting in Canada

Listen to the following conversation about two different locations in BC, Canada.  
As you listen, put an X in the box for the location which has the information listed.



Listen to Track 11

Information	Big White	Both	Mount Revelstoke
Snowshoeing			
Hiking			
Skiing			
National Park			
Alpine Lakes			
Wildflowers			

## Activity D: Listen for Specific Information

Listen to Track 11 again. As you listen, write the context in which the word was used. The first one is done for you.

### Comparing and Contrasting Words

### Context

In comparison to

The speakers use this to compare Big White and Mount Revelstoke. They talk about the differences between the height of the mountains.

In contrast

On the one hand / on the other hand

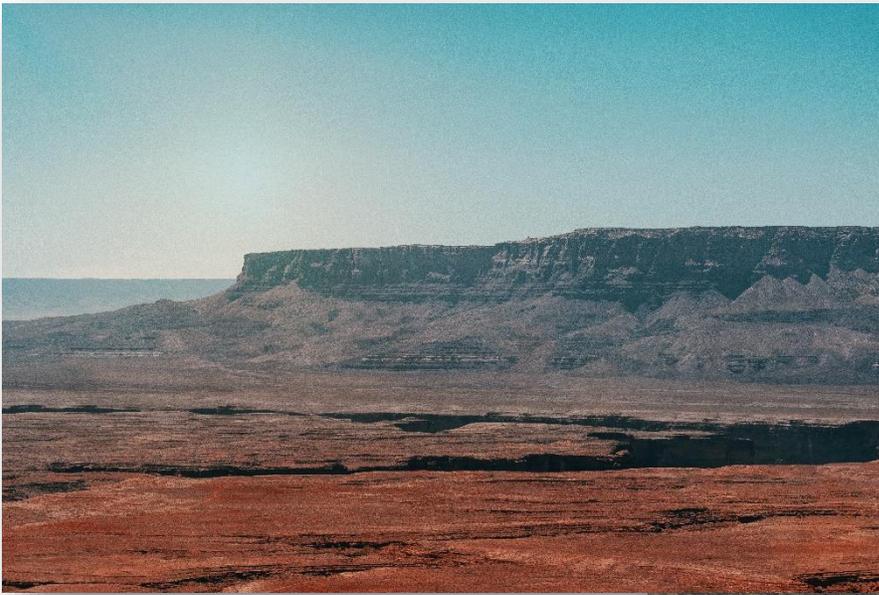
In common

However,

## Activity E: Look and Match II

Look at the pictures below and:

- Describe the pictures with a classmate or in small groups
- Connect the pictures with words from page 35



## Activity F: Canadian Geography Words

Study the words in the box below. Then complete the table with the correct word type and definition. When you have finished, share your answers with a classmate or in small groups.

	Key Word	Word Type	Definition
1.	Geographical features		
2.	Plateau		
3.	Limestone		
4.	Glacier		
5.	Peak		
6.	Wildflowers		
7.	Subalpine		

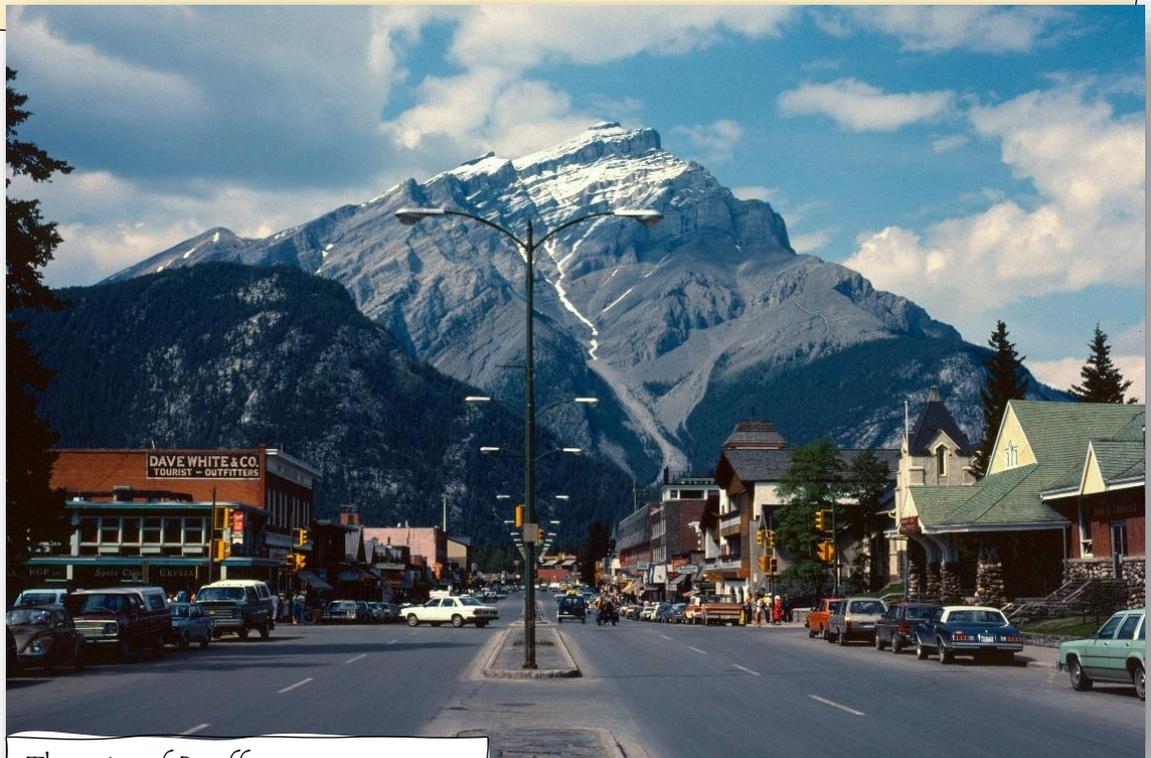
## Activity G: Listen for Context

Listen to Track 11 again. As you listen, try to identify some words from the box below. Then, write some information about the word you heard.

### Key Word

1. Geographical features
2. National park
3. Glacier
4. Peak
5. Wildflowers
6. Subalpine

### Context



The city of Banff

# Speaking Text: National Parks and unique landscapes in Canada

## Activity A: Research

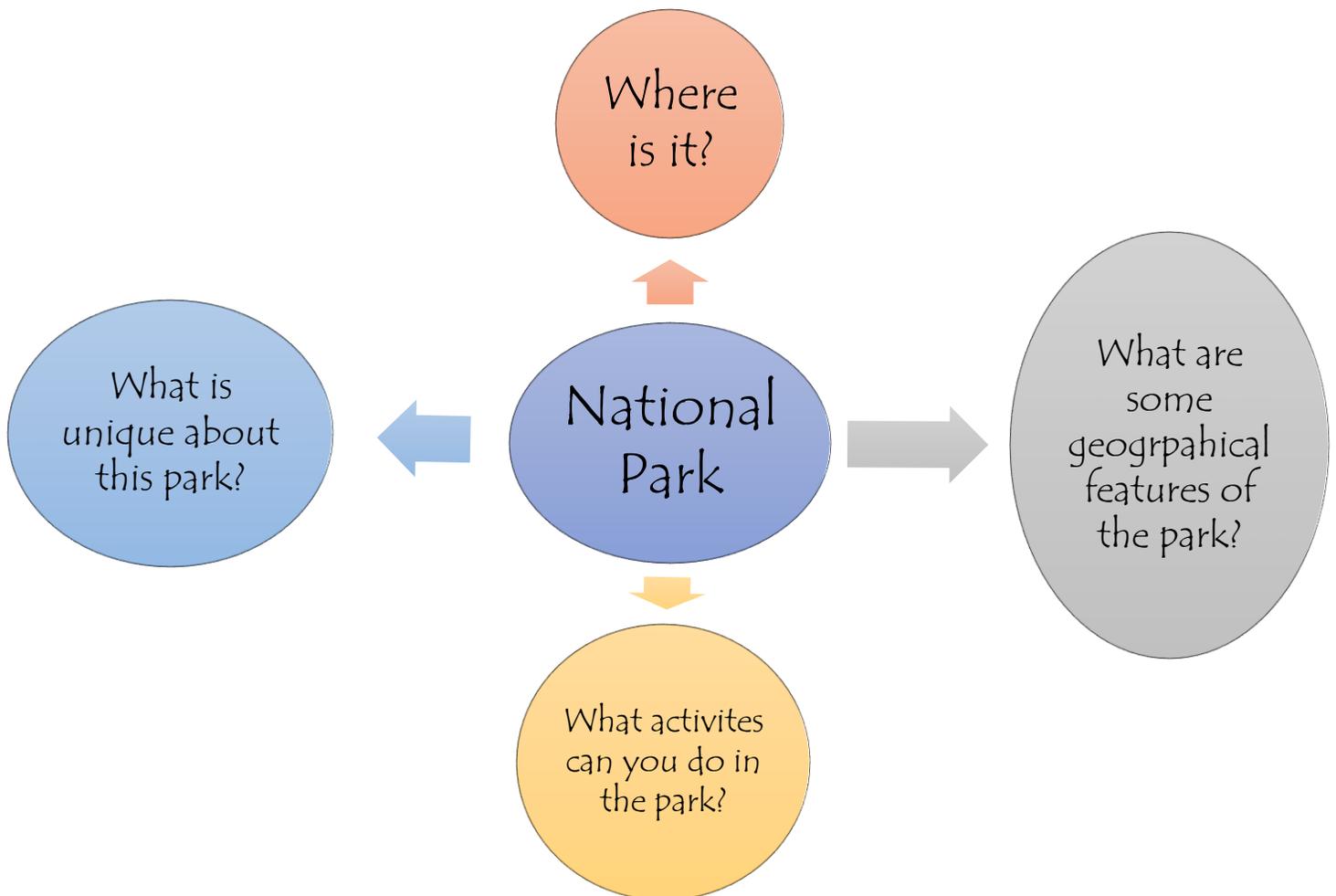
Did you know Canada has 48 national parks?

Two popular national parks are:

- Banff National Park
- Mount Revelstoke National Park

Choose one of these national parks and research it online.  
Try to find the following:

Language tip:  
Use relative clauses  
when sharing your  
information



## Activity B: National Parks Discussion

Read the information below about Banff and Mount Revelstoke.

Find points of comparison or contrast.

Then, paraphrase the information.

Share your answers with a classmate or in small groups

### Banff National Park

Location:	Alberta
Date established:	1885
Size:	1,641,027 acres
Annual visitors:	4 million

#### Geographical Features

- Rugged and mountains.
- High alpine peaks.
- Subalpine landscape.
- Montane landscape.
- Mountains in the region are composed of limestone, shale, and other sedimentary rocks.

#### Recreational Activities

Boating, kayaking, hiking, camping, skiing, snowboarding.

### Mount Revelstoke National Park

Location:	British Columbia
Date established:	1914
Size:	260 square kilometres
Annual visitors:	600,000

#### Geographical Features

- Formed 250 million years ago by the collision.
- of the North American and Pacific Plates.
- Range was covered by the Cordilleran ice sheet until as recent as 6,000 years ago.
- Ancient igneous and metamorphic rocks.
- Jagged mountain peaks and small lakes.
- Subalpine meadows.

#### Recreational activities

Hiking, photography, backwoods camping, snowshoeing, cross country skiing.

## Activity C: Listen and Match

Listen to the following recordings and take notes.

The recordings talk about Banff and Mount Revelstoke National Park.

When you have finished, compare your notes to the information on page 38 and identify if the recording is talking about Banff or Mount Revelstoke.

Write your answers in the box below.



### Listen to Track 12

Listening

Location

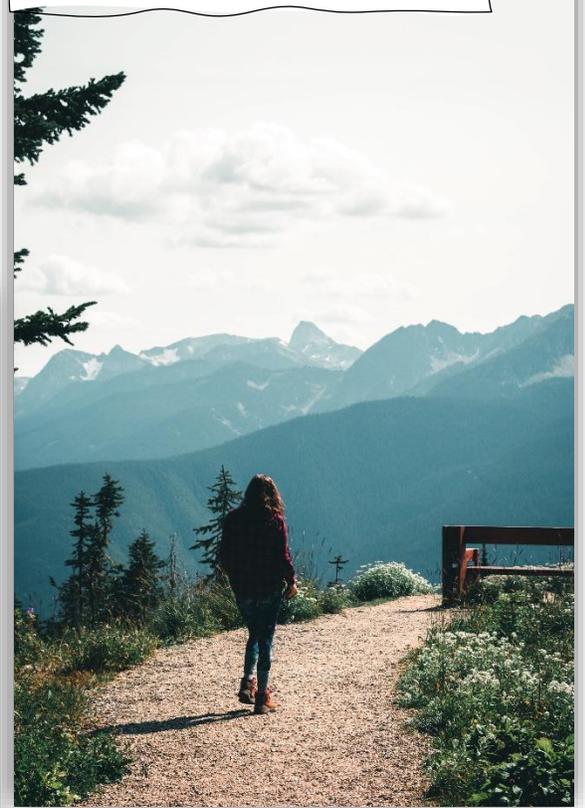
1

2

3

4

Mount Revelstoke National Park



Moraine Lake, Banff National Park

## Activity D: Research

Read the information in the box below.

You are going to visit BC but only have enough time to visit one location. There are several places you want to visit.

1. The Okanagan Valley
2. Bear Creek Provincial Park
3. Skaha Lake
4. Osoyoos

Research online and compare and contrast two different locations with a partner or in small groups.

Find out:

- Where it is
- What is unique about it
- Some geographical features of the area
- What activities you can do in the area

Then, choose which place you will visit.

### Language Tip

When you compare and contrast, you should use a combination of:

- Paraphrasing
- Relative Clauses
- Vocabulary from this unit

### Language tip:

Use the phrases from the next page when talking about your research

Use these prompts to describe different places:

- I think we should go to... because...
- The high mountain, which is called...
- Banff, which is..., has...
- There is a big lake where you can...
- Have you heard of Skaha Lake? It's a beautiful lake that...
- John said it's a place that/where....
- You can take pictures of mountains that...
- The highest mountain is \_\_\_\_\_ which is...
- I think we should go to \_\_\_\_\_ where you can...
- I like \_\_\_\_\_, which is...
- The Okanagan Valley, where you can..., is...
- The brochure says that Mount Revelstoke, which is in BC, is a beautiful national park.
- There are lots of jagged mountains that...
- It's a big lake, which has...

# Presentation Skill

An important skill when giving a presentation in university is using information from online and or/printed reference sources. You need to correctly cite the person or organization that you are including in your presentation.

## Activity A: Identify the Citations

Listen to the following examples of using cited information.

As you listen, identify the phrases and sources used.

Write your answers in the box below.

When you have finished, share your answers with a classmate or in small groups.



### Listen to Track 13

Listening	Citation Phrase	Source
1		
2		
3		

### Online and/or printed references sources

- A source is somewhere you get information
- A brochure is an example of a printed source
- A website is an example of an online source. Some websites are more credible than others. For example, social media is not an academic source; However, social media can be used to get information from people who have visited places (reviews of a location). These are useful for giving information in an informal situation.
- In a university presentation, you should only use reliable and credible sources. In a regular conversation or non-academic situation, you can use any source.

## Activity B: Research Challenge

Study the phrases below for referencing online and/or printed sources

### Phrases for referencing:

According to...

It says on the website that...

This is a beautiful place which the website says...

The brochure states...

The website also mentioned that...

The author of the travel book explained that...

The most recent government publication indicates there is...

### Research Challenge

In the Critical Thinking section of this unit you researched areas in your own country that people like to visit. **Research this area again but look for what people or organizations have said about this area.** Try to find some facts about this area from an official website or related websites.

Share the information with a classmate or in small groups. Use some of the phrases from the box above when you are speaking.

## Unit Outcome: Canadian Geography

Read the activities below, then choose one activity to complete with a classmate or in small groups.

In this unit we have studied:

- Geography
- Unique Geographical Areas and Features
- Relative clauses
- Citation Skills
- Pronunciation Skills
- Paraphrasing Skills

Try to use some of these in your unit outcome activity

### Activity A – Conversation about an upcoming holiday

You are going on holidays. You each need to prepare a short presentation of where you want to go on holidays.

You should include the following information:

- What you can do there
- The geography of the place and why it is relevant
- Some information from the a credible online and/or printed source

Record a conversation between you and your classmates discussing the different places. You should compare and contrast the locations. By the end, you should all agree on what place you will visit.

### Did I include:

- Two or more citations
- Two or more relative clauses
- Paraphrasing
- Vocabulary from this unit

### Activity B – Academic Presentation on an area of unique Geography

You need to prepare short academic presentation about a unique area either in your country or in Canada. The presentation should describe the area and the geography.

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